(d) Following the Third Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held in Mumbai in January 2005, developing a database of overseas Indians, including NRIs, has been identified as a key action point.

Third Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan

†389. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details regarding objectives and success achieved in the Third Pravasi Bhartiya Sammelan held in Mumbai in January, 2005;

(b) whether-it is a fact that only affluent NRIs were present in the conference and there was no representation of other millions of Non-Resident Indians;

(c) if so, whether Government have put forth its view in the conference; and

(d) if so, the details of the overall consensus achieved in the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The objective of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held in Mumbai in January 2005 was to deepen the engagement between India and its diaspora through focused activities across sectors.

The overall achievement of Pravasi Bharatiya Divas 2005 was that it re-established Government of India's determination to strengthen the interaction between overseas Indians and India by positioning the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs as the single-point service provider for the Indian Diaspora.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Government of India is committed to greater engagement of Diaspora consisting of both Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in India's social and economic development and greater networking between India and its Diaspora which in turn is expected to lead to several collaborative ventures in different sectors.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.